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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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			EXAMINER	
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		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2626		

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/724,192		YAJIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Negussie Worku		2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.


Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 November 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-12 and 14, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshino (USP 5852500).

With respect to claim 1, Yoshino discloses a facsimile (an arrangement of facsimile apparatus of fig 1), apparatus having a function of multi-address transmission of image data in a plurality of different communication modes, see (a multi -address call function (various mode) col.2, lines 23, and 55-56) comprising: a destination judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including classifying input destination into groups, see col.3, lines 46-49) for controlling for classifying inputted destination into groups, see (col.3, lines 35-38, and col.3, lines 45-50 & 57-60); a memory (RAM 31) for storing the classified destinations by group, see (col.3, lines 30-34); and a control section (communication control unit 3 of fig 1) for controlling image data, see (col.2, lines 42-43)

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transmission by destinations classified by the destination judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, see col.3, lines 46-49).

With respect to claim 2, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein the destination judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including classifying input destination into groups, see col.3, lines 46-49) is provided with a registration memory (main controller 1 of fig 1, includes RAM for storing various data) for storing registration data including data related to abbreviated dialing or single button dialing (one touch dial keys 41 of fig 1, see col.17-19) of destinations, see (col.3, lines 28-34), and when a destination is inputted by abbreviated dialing or single button dialing, (console/display unit 4 of fig 1, includes various mode keys, such as 41 of fig 1, see col.2, lines 50-58, and see col.3, lines 17-18) the destination judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including data related to key single button dial key 41 of fig 1) reads out data related to the abbreviated dialing or single button dialing of the destination from the registration data of the registration memory (a RAM that includes in the main controller 1 of fig 1) and classifies the destination based on the data read from the registration data, see (col.3, lines 46-49).

With respect to claim 3, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein the data related to abbreviated dialing or single button dialing (one-touch dial key 41

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of fig 1, see col.2, lines 65-66) of destinations includes expression modes of the destinations, (multi-address transmission in accordance with proper multi-address call mode set by the console/display unit 4 of fig 1, see col.3, lines 17-19).

With respect to claim 4, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein the data related to abbreviated dialing or single button dialing (one-touch dial key 41 of fig 1) of destinations includes attribute data of the destinations (the multi-address call image data is transmitted from the image memory to the destination in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol, and with bit state of the flag F.ASSUGN., so as bit state of the flag, facsimile communication protocol, are can be used as attribute data, see col.3, lines 51-56).

With respect to claim 5, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein the attribute data includes types of terminals of the destinations, (since the multi-address call image data is transmitted from the image memory to the destination in accordance with a facsimile communication protocol, attribute data terminal types may facsimiles devices, see col.3, lines 51-56).

With respect to claim 6, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein the attribute data includes types of networks (since plurality of address or plurality of destination are inputted to communicate with various terminals, a network control unit (NTU)

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which is included in the communication control unit (3 of fig 1, see col.2, lines 42-45, determines the types of networks to which the destination are connected, to setup data to be transmitted according to receiver's format, so that types of the networks are inherently determined as a "broadcast type networks", then the broadcast network initialization procedure is inherently entered).

With respect to claim 10, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (an arrangement of facsimile apparatus of fig 1) wherein classification of inputted destinations by the destination (as shown in fig 3-1, a designated inputted destination dialed for each group see step S3 of fig 3-1), judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including classifying input destination into groups, see col.3, lines 46-49) is carried out every time when one destination is inputted.

With respect to claim 11, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (an arrangement of facsimile apparatus of fig 1) wherein classification of inputted destinations by the destination (as shown in fig 3-1, a designated inputted destination dialed for each group see step S3 of fig 3-1), judging section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including classifying input destination into groups, see col.3, lines 46-49) is carried out when all destinations are inputted .

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With respect to claim 12, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus, (an arrangement of facsimile apparatus of fig 1) wherein the control section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU), controls transmission of image data sequentially by group (after one group is processed next group is to be processed, sequentially by group, see fig 3-1, step S3, see also col.3, lines 35-40).

With respect to claim 14, Yoshino discloses the facsimile apparatus (an arrangement of facsimile apparatus of fig 1) wherein the control section (main control unit 1 of fig 1, comprises a (CPU) for controlling the overall operation of the facsimile including classifying input destination into groups, see col.3, lines 46-49), controls transmission of image data by group in parallel, (fig 3-2 shows a flow chart detailed control operation of division into group, see co.4, lines 3-5).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 7, 8 and 9, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshino (USP 5,852,500) in view of Nozawa et al. (USP 5,668,640).

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With respect to claims 7, Yoshino discloses all of the subject matter except for wherein the attribute data includes formats of attachments, to be transmitted to the destinations connected to a network.

However, Nozawa et al. in the same area of data communication apparatus discloses wherein the attribute data (as shown in fig 4) includes formats of attachments, (as shown in fig 2, see col.5, lines 57-60); to be transmitted to the destinations connected to a network (NCU 1 of fig 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino to include: formats of attachments.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino by the teaching of Nozawa et al. because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users to have method that image data are easy transmitted between different communication apparatus those having different attribute data.

With respect to claims 8, Yoshino discloses all of the subject matter except for wherein the attribute data includes resolutions of attachments, to be transmitted to the destinations connected to a network.

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However, Nozawa et al. in the same area of data communication apparatus discloses wherein the attribute data (as shown in fig 4) includes, resolutions of attachments, (reading line density, see col.6, lines 31-32).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino to include: formats of attachments, resolutions and compression method attachments.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino by the teaching of Nozawa et al. because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users to have method that image data are easy transmitted between different communication apparatus those having different attribute data.

With respect to claims 9, Yoshino discloses all of the subject matter except for wherein the attribute data includes compression methods to be transmitted to the destinations connected to a network.

However, Nozawa et al. in the same area of data communication apparatus discloses wherein the attribute data (as shown in fig 4) includes compression methods, (coding types such as MMR, see col.5, lines 50-55, to be transmitted to the destinations connected to a network (NCU 1 of fig 1).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino to include: formats of attachments, resolutions and compression method attachments.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the image communication system of Yoshino by the teaching of Nozawa et al. because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users to have method that image data are easy transmitted between different communication apparatus those having different attribute data.

5. Claim 13, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshino. (USP 5,852,500) in view of Nozawa et al. (USP 5,668,640), further in view of well known prior art (MPEP 2144.03).

With respect to claim 13, Yoshino fail to specifically disclose control transmission while giving a priority to a group of destination connected to a network.

The examiner takes Official Notice of that it is well known in the art that giving a priority to a group of destination connected to a network.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Yoshino (USP 5,852,500) in view of Nazawa et al. (USP 5,668,640), for giving a priority to a group of destination connected to a network.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement a method of giving a priority to a group of destination connected to a network, for the purpose of receiving image or message that has urgent or time sensitive document with certain period of time.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from Examiner should be directed to *Negussie Worku* whose telephone number is (703) 305 5441.

The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9am - 6pm if attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, **Kimberly Williams**, can be reached on (703) 305-4863.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306, and any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



12/22/03

MARK WALLERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

